

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (*Previously Presented*) A method for inspecting thermal equipment, comprising the steps of:

fetching information related to an operating state of thermal equipment via a communication line into an information processing device provided at a management center connected via the communication line to a facility site which is equipped with the thermal equipment and which is under a specified contract for the thermal equipment;

making the information processing device execute creation of report data for use of inspection recording related to an inspection of the thermal equipment as well as delivery of the created report data to the facility site; and

outputting from an output device a report based on the report data delivered from the information processing device at the facility site.

2. (*Previously Presented*) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 1, wherein said step of fetching the information related to the operating state of the thermal equipment occurs at a specified time point.

3. (*Previously Presented*) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

storing the report data in a data storage device at each time

during a creation of the report data,

executing by the information processing device a creation of a total report data for a the specified period at which the stored report data is to be totaled as well as delivery of the created total report data to the facility site, and

outputting, while at the facility site, a total report of the specified period based on the total report data delivered from the information processing device from the output device.

4. (Original) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 2, wherein in event of occurrence of an abnormality of the thermal equipment, abnormality information on the thermal equipment is fetched into the information processing device, and the fetched abnormality information is included in the report data.

5. (Previously Presented) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

storing the report data in a data storage device each time the report data is created, and

executing by the information processing device a creation of a total report data for a the specified period at which the stored report data is to be totaled as well as delivery of the created total report data to the facility site, and

outputting, while at the facility site, a total report of the specified period based on the total report data delivered from the information processing device from the output device.

6. (Original) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 1, wherein the information related to operating state of the thermal equipment is fetched into the information processing device at a specified time interval.

7. (Original) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 6, wherein the report data is stored in the data storage device at each time of creation of the report data, and the information processing device executes creation of total report data for a specified period at which the stored report data is to be totaled as well as delivery of the created total report data to the facility site, while at the facility site, a total report of the specified period based on the total report data delivered from the information processing device is outputted from the output device.

8. (Original) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 6, wherein in event of occurrence of an abnormality of the thermal equipment, abnormality information on the thermal equipment is fetched into the information processing device, and the fetched abnormality information is included in the report data.

9. (Original) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 8, wherein the report data is stored in a data storage device at each time of creation of the report data, and the information processing device executes creation of total report data

for a specified period at which the stored report data is to be totaled as well as delivery of the created total report data to the facility site, while at the facility site, a total report of the specified period based on the total report data delivered from the information processing device is outputted from the output device.

10. (Original) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 1, wherein in event of occurrence of an abnormality of the thermal equipment, abnormality information on the thermal equipment is fetched into the information processing device, and the fetched abnormality information is included in the report data.

11. (Original) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 10, wherein the report data is stored in a data storage device at each time of creation of the report data, and the information processing device executes creation of total report data for a specified period at which the stored report data is to be totaled as well as delivery of the created total report data to the facility site, while at the facility site, a total report of the specified period based on the total report data delivered from the information processing device is outputted from the output device.

12. (Original) The method for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 1, wherein the report data is stored in a data storage device at each time of creation of the report data, and the

information processing device executes creation of total report data for a specified period at which the stored report data is to be totaled as well as delivery of the created total report data to the facility site, while at the facility site, a total report of the specified period based on the total report data delivered from the information processing device is outputted from the output device.

13. (*Previously Presented*) A system for substantially reducing personnel and human error during required periodic inspections of thermal equipment, said system to be built between a facility site, equipped with the thermal equipment under a specified contract for the thermal equipment, and a management center which serves for maintenance and management of the thermal equipment, the system comprising:

a communication line for connecting the facility site and the management center to each other;

an operating-state information collecting device, provided at the facility site, for collecting information related to operating states of the thermal equipment;

a facility-side modem interposed between the operating-state information collecting device and the communication line;

an information processing device provided at the management center and for fetching the information related to the operating states of the thermal equipment via the communication line and for executing a creation of report data for inspection recording, the

inspection recording related to an inspection of the thermal equipment as well as delivery of the created report data to the facility site;

a management center-side modem interposed between the information processing device and the communication line; and

an output device provided at the facility site for outputting a report based on the delivered report data.

**14. (Previously Presented)** The system for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 13, further comprising a data storage device for storing therein the report data each time the report data has been created, and wherein the information processing device being capable of executing creation of total report data for a specified period at which the report data stored in the data storage device is to be totaled as well as delivery of the created total report data to the facility site, while at the facility site, the output device outputting a total report of the specified period based on the total report data delivered from the information processing device.

**15. (Original)** The system for inspecting thermal equipment according to Claim 13, wherein in event of occurrence of an abnormality of the thermal equipment, the information processing device is capable of fetching abnormality information on the thermal equipment and making the fetched abnormality information included in the report data.

**16. (Previously Presented)** The system for inspecting thermal

equipment according to Claim 15, further comprising a data storage device for storing therein the report data at each time of during creation of the report data, and wherein the information processing device is capable of executing creation of total report data for a specified period at which the report data stored in the data storage device is to be totaled as well as delivery of the created total report data to the facility site, while at the facility site, the output device is capable of outputting a total report of the specified period based on the total report data delivered from the information processing device.

**Claims 17-20 (cancelled)**